

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

General Secretary - Larissa Pereira (S.Y. B.Ed.)

“Go into the world and do well. But more importantly, go into the world and do good”

- Minor Myers Jr.

2020: the year the world changed

2020 has been a tumultuous year for people all around the world. Almost a year on from these opening moments of the global coronavirus pandemic, the virus is still wreaking havoc in our lives. The pandemic continues its hold on our lives – the second wave in our country has had a devastating impact.

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. In response to COVID-19, many countries applied strict social distancing measures and a lockdown policy. India entered lockdown on 23rd March, 2020. The lockdown certainly disrupted education in many parts of the world. The pandemic has had a serious impact on schools, students and teachers. Students and teachers were not allowed to visit schools and universities physically and most institutions have transformed to an online teaching and learning approach.

The world of teaching and learning has changed dramatically, and we find ourselves relying on technology to conduct lectures and other teaching and learning activities. Our students are in remote locations away from campus, and we connect with them using technology. Despite all these changes, life goes on, and we have to live with this reality, which is now referred to as ‘**a new normal**’.

We at MES’ Pillai College of Education and Research call this as a year of innovation and resilience. While the global pandemic disrupted education activities on campus, the students and professors shifted to the online mode of learning through learning management systems. Online lectures were conducted on Google meet platform. The timetable for the same was flexible and well planned. For uploading of notes and material, Google classroom is used. This was done efficiently under the leadership of our Principal Dr Sally Enos. Our professors and Sally ma’am have been a guiding light in these long months of isolation and uncertainty. Our professors have always been a text or a call away during these turbulent times often lending a helping hand.

Let's tour the online activities that happened in the academic year 2020-2021

1. Second semester lectures -

While the pandemic shifted us into the online mode of learning, we at MES' Pillai College of Education & Research accepted this swiftly. Professors engaged in technological engagements with students so that all of them understand how to operate the different learning management systems. The portions for subjects such as Educational Management, Learning and Teaching & Pedagogy of school subjects were completed via the online mode. In wake of the pandemic, Mumbai University cancelled first year degree examinations. In view of this, there was no formal exam taken for second semester. The internals and assignments for the same were recorded and was used to declare the result. The concepts for the different subjects were crucial and professors and students engaged in fruitful teaching-learning activities.

2. Evaluation workshop:

MES' Pillai College of Education & Research organized an Evaluation workshop from 27th April 2020 to 18th May 2020. The sessions were conducted online on Google Meet. It included making of a year plan, unit plan, weightage tables, blue-print, question paper & scoring key. Each session was adequately planned and executed well by our professors. The workshop was planned in such a way that students can work right after the session. This made it easier for students to complete their work on time. The workshop was a huge success as students understood various aspects of evaluation.

3. Online teaching-learning & Formative Assessment Techniques workshop:

MES' Pillai College of Education & Research organized an online teaching-learning & formative assessment techniques workshop from 3rd June 2020 to 9th June 2020. The workshop consisted of the use of Google forms and quizzes to carry out assessments. The workshop was well planned and executed well. This helped students to understand Google forms and allowed them to use it effectively in different areas of education. Quizzes was another good tool that was covered which is effective for Science & Mathematics learning.

4. National Yoga Day:

“The nature of yoga is to shine the light of awareness into the darkest corners of the body.” Yoga is an ancient physical, mental and spiritual practice that originated in

India. The word 'yoga' derives from Sanskrit and means to join or to unite, symbolizing the union of body and consciousness. The International Day of Yoga that is celebrated on 21st June aims to raise awareness worldwide of the many benefits of practicing yoga.

MES' Pillai College of Education & Research celebrated National Yoga Day on 21st June 2020. Ms. Bharati Iyer was the resource person who engaged us into different postures. She emphasized on correct postures and breathing patterns. Students found this session extremely useful and enjoyed the laughter therapy.

- ❖ **Webinar-** A live online educational presentation during which participating viewers can submit questions and comments and engage in new learning about certain disciplines.

Webinar 1- Ethical Teacher Behaviour Modifications for enhancing professionalism:

The webinar was conducted by the Internal Quality Assessment Cell of MES'S Pillai College of Education and Research. The webinar was organized on 24th July, 2020 at 5:00 pm and was live streamed on YouTube. Dr Anuradha Jaiswal a successful teacher educator and extremely qualified professional and with a wide number of teaching experiences in different schools was the resource person. Ma'am shared that teaching isn't only about the content knowledge and assessments. It is far beyond that. A teacher is a friend, philosopher and guide. Dr Anuradha Jaiswal shared her wonderful knowledge and her experiences from different schools. Ma'am emphasized the impact teachers have on students and all of these should lead to creating good and healthy individuals for the society. Dr Anuradha Jaiswal also shared that communication skills are something she really emphasizes during a demo lesson. In the long run, strong interpersonal skills and a pleasing personality are the winners, she said. Ma'am also emphasized that though artificial intelligence is booming, it can never replace the need of humane and effective teachers. Overall, the webinar was an enthralling experience and helped us gain new and relevant insights.

Webinar 2 - Integrating soft skills in online teaching

The webinar was organized by the Internal Quality Assessment Cell of MES'S Pillai College of Education & Research. The webinar was organized on 31st July 2020 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Dr Vandana Mahajani was the resource person who has been consistently uplifting herself and believes in life-long learning. Ma'am shared her own

perspectives regarding teaching. Ma'am emphasized that confidence and content make an effective teacher. "Your destiny depends on the impression you make." Self-grooming becomes an important part of the profession. A smile, confidence and a good body language all are integral parts of the profession. Ma'am also emphasized the importance of exercise and yoga to be physically fit. Teachers must also possess a strong mental health and it is important that they relax in different ways to avoid burnout. Teachers must also engage in reading books as this helps them develop new learning. The webinar was organized effectively and Dr Vandana Mahajani provided us deep insights with respect to the topic.

Webinar 3- Creating and editing video lessons

The webinar was organized by the Internal Quality Assessment Cell of MES'S Pillai College of Education and Research. The webinar was organized on 1st August 2020 at 4:00 pm. Ms. Neetu Pillai was the resource person. Ma'am is an associate professor at the Pillai College of Engineering and is also a trained Kuchipudi dancer. Ma'am explained to us the basics of OBS software which helps in making free videos for students to study. This forms an important part in remote teaching during the pandemic. Neetu Ma'am made this session an interactive and a fun one due to her wide technological knowledge.

Webinar 4- Intellectual Property Rights

The webinar was organized by the Internal Quality Assessment Cell of MES'S Pillai College of Education and Research. The webinar was organized on 13th August 2020 from 4:00 pm to 6.00 pm. Mr. Preeyesh Keenan was the resource person for this webinar. IP is the result of creativity such as patents, copyrights etc. IP is essential and it is foremost important that we indulge in fair use of pictures, material and resources as teachers. Sir emphasized that we need to raise awareness about IP and need to engage in fairer use of online material. The webinar was engaging and informative to all students.

Orientation on 3rd semester internship

The orientation on internship of 3rd semester was conducted on 20th August 2020 at 3.00 pm. Dr Bhavna Dave and Dr Sally Enos explained to us in detail about the timings, lesson plans and the guides. Since the internship was online, due to the pandemic it was

important that all students see this as an opportunity to engage students in meaningful learning. The students were really excited for the online internship.

3rd semester internship-

The 3rd semester internship began on 4th August 2020 and concluded on 15th October 2020. The internship consisted of co-teaching lessons, integrated lessons and individual lessons. The internship was a great success and all students committed themselves to this work. Dr Sally Enos praised the efforts of everyone and congratulated each one of them for their dedication.

Webinar 4- Online Assessment

The webinar was organized by the Internal Quality Assessment Cell of MES'S Pillai College of Education & Research. The webinar was organized on 3rd September 2020 from 5:00 pm to 6.00 pm. Dr Prashant Lokhande was the resource person for this session. Assessment of students seems to be affected the most due to remote teaching. Dr Prashant demonstrated the use of Kahoot that enables the teacher to make assessment lively, engaging and helps to understand learning in students. The session was effective and engaging and was concluded by a kahoot quiz for all the participants.

Webinar 5- Teaching for Perspective Change - Embracing Transformational Learning Practices

The webinar was organized by the Internal Quality Assessment Cell of MES'S Pillai College of Education & Research. The webinar was organized on 11th September 2020 from 10:30 am to 12:30 am. The resource person for this webinar was Dr Anne Grey, Ed.D. Professor, Faculty Chair, Concordia University, Wisconsin. Dr Anne Grey was a distinguished guest who has worked at different levels from kindergarten to undergraduate students. Dr Anne also works with organizations to reduce racism in their settings and promote a culture of equity, diversity and inclusion.

The webinar focused on Transformational Learning. Mezirow, who proposed the transformative learning describes transformative learning as “learning that transforms problematic frames of reference to make them more inclusive, discriminating, reflective, open, and emotionally able to change.

Teachers must provide opportunities for students to indulge in critical thinking through providing content that introduces new ideas. The main highlight of the webinar was

“teacher is the learner, and the learner becomes the teacher” & we must always walk-through life as if you have something new to learn. The webinar was a great opportunity to learn and apply these practices in schools. Dr Anne Grey truly filled us with her enriching thoughts and passion for learning. The webinar ended with a vote of thanks by Dr Geeta Thakur.

Webinar 6 - Critical Thinking: Tools and techniques for teachers

The webinar was organized by the Internal Quality Assessment Cell of MES’S Pillai College of Education & Research. The webinar was organized on 26th September 2020 from 10:30 am to 12:30 am. The resource person for this webinar was Mr. Chetan Date, Ph.D. an Aerospace Quality Executive from Tempe, Arizona.

The webinar focused on developing critical thinking in students. It consists of Socratic questioning which allows us to think deeply. Socrates said, “An unexamined life is not worth living.” Critical thinking allows learners to become self-structured, disciplined and helps them progress in their learning. A teacher thus influences, guides and motivates in this process. It also includes analysing situations and assessing the cause-effect. The webinar was a great opportunity to engage with Dr Chetan Date who provided us deep insights into this topic.

Webinar 7- World Habitat Day (1 minute) Habit formation

The webinar was organized by MES Pillai College of Education and Research, New Panvel and Pillai HOC College of Education and Research, Rasayani in collaboration with Soroptimist Welfare Association (SIBC). The webinar was organized on 15th October,2020 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm onwards. The guest speaker for the session was Mrs. Sonia D’souza Bhavsar. The young dynamic founder of Dropledge, a social cause-based technology initiative. In May 2020, Dropledge was chosen for a special accreditation by the United Nations. It is aligned and registered with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 14.

The session was based on the fact that if we dedicate one minute from each day of our life to one sustainable habit, we make the world a better place. Every teacher receives an opportunity to reach students in large numbers and promote the message of sustainable habits. The session reminded us of the power we have and the responsibility we must shape our future on this fragile yet amazingly beautiful planet. The session was enriching, and everyone gained new perspectives on sustainable living.

Webinar 8 – Preparing Teachers for Diverse, Equitable and Inclusive Classroom

The webinar was organized by MES' Pillai HOC College of Education and Research, Rasayani. The webinar was organized on 21st November, 2020 from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm. The resource person for the webinar was Ms. Apoorva Panshikar. The webinar addressed inclusive education and how teachers can create positive learning environments for children with special needs. An inclusive classroom teaches us it's the environment, not the child that needs to change. The webinar also shed some light on curriculum adaptation and differentiated instruction. The webinar was a great opportunity to understand the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion in education.

Audit course- "Understanding the Self"

The audit course - Understanding the self was organized by MES' Pillai College of Education and Research from 23rd November, 2020 - 4th December, 2020. The workshop included analysing our own self such as exploring the self, the evolving self, the emerging self and the caring self. The sessions were conducted by our esteemed professors Dr Bhavna Dave, Dr Geeta Thakur, Mrs Pradnya Jadhav and Mrs. Bindu Tambe. Dr Sally Enos, our principal, actively engaged with students during the audit course and provided us with deep insights with respect to our lives, careers and caring for the larger world. The main highlight of the audit course was to develop a positive self-concept, high self-esteem and self-compassion. The audit course was well planned, and students gained a lot during this time.

Semester 3 University Examinations-

The semester 3 examinations were online due to the pandemic. The exams commenced on 23rd December 2020 and ended on 30th December, 2020. The papers were the following -

- 23rd December, 2020- Assessment for Learning
- 28th December, 2020- Pedagogy of school subject
- 30th December 2020- Language & Curriculum

The exams were executed effectively, and all students were extremely happy with their dedication throughout semester three.

Orientation on Resume writing for placement interviews

The orientation for placement interviews was organized on 31st December 2020 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. Dr Geeta Thakur conducted a brief presentation explaining the difference between resume, C.V and biodata. Ma'am also explained the importance of grooming and being presentable for the interview even though it was online. Ma'am mentioned that excellent communication skills and a great deal of confidence adds to our personality and would help in cracking interviews.

Orientation on Semester 4

The orientation for semester 4 was organized on 4th January, 2021. Dr Sally Enos, our principal welcomed all students to semester four. Ma'am congratulated the efforts of all students for their dedication and commitment throughout all semesters. Ma'am expected the same dedication from all students for the last semester as well. A short orientation for the action research was also organized by Mrs Pradnya Jadhav to explain the use of action research. Different topics were discussed with respect to action research. This would help students to choose topics from their disciplines.

NAAC SPONSORED WEBINAR ON Qualitative & Quantitative Metrics in Assessment of TEI's as per NAAC Guidelines 2019

The webinar was organized by the Internal Quality Assessment Cell of MES'S Pillai College of Education & Research. It was a three-day NAAC sponsored webinar on 'Qualitative and Quantitative metrics in Assessment of TEIs as per NAAC guidelines 2019. It was organized from 3rd to 5th February 2021. It involved excellent sessions and certainly was helpful for all teacher educators.

Semester 4 Internship

The semester 4 internship began on 11th January 2021. The schools were Mahatma International School and CKT junior college. This semester students were expected to complete five lessons in the second pedagogy and five co-teaching lessons with a peer. The internship was a great opportunity for working on the second pedagogy subjects. All students showed great commitment and dedication in all their work.

The community work had to be completed during the internship. It involved a whole class session of creating awareness about topics such as the environment, pollution etc.

Student-teachers selected topics of interest and engaged effectively making the session informative and fun for all school students.

The learning resource had to be made during the internship. Student-teachers presented their learning resources on 21st March 2021. There were groups made for this purpose. Student-teachers participated with great enthusiasm.

Women's Day Celebration

Women's Day was celebrated on 9th March, 2021 at MES' Pillai College of Education and Research. The session began at 11.00 am. The theme for the same was Choose to challenge according to the theme of the United Nations for 2021. A woman's place is everywhere. Therefore, it is important that women dream with ambition, claim our space, empower each other and lead with compassion.

The celebration involved events such as songs, poetry, women in sports and women in STEM. It was a great opportunity to meet students of F.Y. B.Ed. who participated with much enthusiasm. The session concluded at 12:30 pm.

SEMESTER 4 UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

Orientation for the exams were held on 19th April 2021. Dr Geeta Thakur explained all the details and technological devices that would be required. All students were aware of the requirements for an online examination.

- 20th April 2021- Contemporary India & Education
- 22nd April 2021- Elective course 3 (Guidance & Counselling/ Environmental Education)
- 23rd April 2021- Creating an Inclusive School

The exams began on 20th April and concluded on 23rd April. All students could complete their exams and uploaded their work appropriately.

THE JOURNEY AHEAD.....

MES' Pillai College of Education and Research would certainly remain a cornerstone in our lives. A place where we developed the values of prudence, dedication and humility. It was a great honour for me to be a general secretary since the last two years. While we were in class, we interacted during lectures, raised questions and presented our opinions.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it was online learning. This was an opportunity for us to learn so many things. During these long months of isolation, we always stayed in touch through messages, meetings and video calls.

As part of the student council, we always wanted to create a healthy team culture. A class where we respect and appreciate every individual. I believe that every act of kindness is magical. It creates a kindness ripple. While sometimes it was too much to ask for, calls, messages, assignments and tests; we at the student council were always there for our friends. I thank all our amazing professors for believing in every moment. Our principal, Dr Sally Enos who has been a constant source of encouragement. We all look forward to becoming effective and humane teachers who will always enjoy learning.



**Aim for the sky, but move slowly,
enjoying every step along the way.**

**It is all those little steps that make the journey
complete.**

Chanda Kochhar